

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 00990 141427Z

12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 DHA-02 ORM-02 /091 W

----- 005399

R 141321Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9986

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

UNCLAS HELSINKI 0990

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MO, FI

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN DELEGATION IN FINLAND

1. DELEGATION REPRESENTING MOROCCAN KING HASSAN AND LED BY NATIONAL SOCIALIST LEAGUE FIRST SECRETARY, ABDERRAHIM BOUABIB ARRIVED IN HELSINKI MAY 12 HOPING TO MEET WITH FINNISH PRESIDENT KEKKONEN ON WESTERN SAHARA DISPUTE. DELEGATION HAD PREVIOUSLY VISITED DENMARK, NORWAY AND SWEDEN.

2. PRESS MAY 13 REPORTED FOREIGN MINISTER SORSA WOULD RECEIVE DELEGATION THAT DAY INSTEAD OF KEKKONEN, WHO FACING RESIGNATION REQUEST FROM FIVE-PARTY COALITION GOVERNMENT LED BY MARTTI MIETTUNEN. IN THE END, GOVERNMENT CRISIS ALSO TIED UP SORSA (WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF FINLAND'S LARGEST POLITICAL PARTY) AND MOROCCANS RECEIVED ONLY BY STATE SECRETARY TUOVINEN. MOROCCAN HONORARY CONSUL GENERAL TOLD PRESS RABAT WOULD SEND ANOTHER DELEGATION TO FINLAND AT LATER DATE.

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3. COMMENT: FINNS PRESUMABLY WISH FOLLOW NEUTRALITY POLICY
IN WEST SAHARA QUESTION, BUT MEDIA TREATMENT HERE HAS
BEEN SOMEWHAT AGAINST MOROCCO AND MAURETANIA. PRESS MAY
14 CITED RED CROSS FIGURES THAT 60,000 OF ESTIMATED 75,000
WEST SAHARAN RESIDENTS HAVE FLED TO ALGERIA.
AUSTAD

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976HELSIN00990
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760188-0342
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760555/aaaabukf.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUL 2004 by wolfsd>; APPROVED <19 JAN 2005 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOROCCAN DELEGATION IN FINLAND
TAGS: PFOR, MO, FI, (HASSAN II)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006